

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ANKARA 05610 031509Z
ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2855

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 5610

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, TU, US
SUBJECT: ELEKDAG VISIT TO WASHINGTON

REF DILLON-EWING TELCON AUG 3.

1. I JUST TALKED TO ELEKDAG ABOUT HIS PROPOSED TRIP TO US SAYING I UNDERSTOOD FAVORABLE RESPONSE WOULD BE COMING FROM WASHINGTON. HE SAID THAT PRIMIN HAD URGED HIM TO GO IMMEDIATELY ON ASSUMPTION THAT CONFERENCE COMMITTEE WOULD MEET ANY DAY. WHEN I TOLD HIM THAT TEN DAYS WOULD BE THE SOONEST AND THAT IT MIGHT BE SEPTEMBER BY TIME COMMITTEE MET, HE SAID HE WOULD HAVE TO TALK TO ECEVIT AGAIN ABOUT TIMING.

2. IN CLARIFYING HOW TURKS WOULD PROPOSE TO HANDLE VISIT, ELEKDAG SAID THAT GOT WOULD NOT REPEAT NOT SAY THAT HE WAS GOING IN CONNECTION WITH CONFERENCE COMMITTEE. THEY WOULD PREFER TO SAY THAT HE WAS THERE TO DISCUSS OTHER MATTERS AND WE COULD DECIDE LATER HOW THIS SHOULD BE HANDLED. THAT PART OF CONVERSATION EDED WITH MY SUGGESTION HE MIGHT WISH TO CONSIDER GOING LATE NEXT WEEK OR EARLY FOLLOWING WEEK BECAUSE THERE SEEMED TO BE NO DANGER THEAT HE WOULD BE "TOO LATE" FOR CONFERENCE COMMITTEE AND THAT WOULD GIVE BOTH OF US A LITTLE TIME TO GET READY FOR WHAT I WAS SURE WOULD BE USEFUL AND PRODUCTIVE TALKS.
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3. BEFORE CLOSING CONVERSATION, ELEKDAG SAID FONMIN HAD ASKED HIM TO CALL ME IN TO URGE THAT CONFERENCE COMMITTEE BE HELD AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. GOT WAS CONCERNED THAT PASSAGE OF TIME WOULD ALLOW POLITICAL OPPOSITION AND ELEMENTS OF PRESS SUCCESSFULLY TO DENIGRATE THE CONGRESSIONAL ACTIONS IN THE HOUSE AND SENATE ON EMBARGO, AND TO MAKE IMPROVEMENT OF OUR RELATIONS

MORE DIFFICULT. FONMIN WAS PARTICULARLY CONCERNED THAT LONG
DELAY MIGHT MEAN NO ACTION BEFORE NOVEMBER ELECTIONS. I TOLD
ELEKDAG THAT I WOULD PASS FONMIN'S MESSAGE TO MY GOVERNMENT.
I REASSURED HIM THAT CONFERENCE COMMITTEE HAD TO OCCUR RELATIVELY
SOON. I SAID WE ALL UNDERSTOOD WHY IT WOULD BE BETTER SOONER
RATHER THAN LATER BUT THAT THE NUMBER AND COMPLEXITY OF ISSUES
CONTAINED IN SECURITY ASSISTANCE BILL WERE SUCH THAT IT WAS
TOING TO TAKE TIME FOR CONFEREES TO PREPARE.
DILLON

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Message Attributes

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